

DON EDWARDS
10TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

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P770187-2100

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

December 2, 1977

409
COMMITTEE ON
JUDICIARY

CHAIRMAN
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
CIVIL AND
CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS

COMMITTEE ON
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Congressional Liaison
Department of State
2201 C Street
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Sir or Madam:

Enclosed is a letter from the District Attorney
of San Francisco County regarding an order of the
Superior Court in that County relative to a child
being held, contrary to the order, by a Rev. Jim Jones
in the country of Guyana.

The District Attorney has been ordered by the
Court to take all steps to secure enforcement of the
order and contacted me for assistance.

Any information, advice or assistance that you
may be able to provide the District Attorney would be
appreciated.

With kindest regards.

Sincerely,

Don Edwards
DON EDWARDS
Member of Congress

DE:scl
✓enclosure

Re. request return of John Victor STOEN to GRACE
LUCY STOEN

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR	
REVIEWED BY	DATE
ROBERT A. BAKER, JR.	
TS V	REASON(S)
RECORDED	INDEXED
DECLASSIFIED	UNCLASSIFIED
RECLASSIFIED	
PA OR EXEMPTION	

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

SEPH FREITAS, JR.
DISTRICT ATTORNEY



DANIEL H. WEINSTEIN
CHIEF ASSISTANT
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

SAN FRANCISCO

330 BRYANT STREET, SAN FRANCISCO 94103 TEL. (415) 553-1752

November 25, 1977

Hon. Don Edwards
The House of Representatives
1625 The Alameda
San Jose, Ca. 95126

Re: Request for Assistance in Enforcement of Court Order
Against Rev. Jim Jones in Guyana

Dear Sir:

On November 18, 1977, the Superior Court of the State of California ordered our office to "take all actions necessary to locate Reverend Jim Jones and to secure Reverend Jim Jones' compliance with this order." Paragraph 4 of the order (a copy attached) states:

"It is ordered that Reverend Jim Jones will immediately deliver the minor, JOHN VICTOR STOEN, to the Petitioner, GRACE LUCY STOEN, or to her authorized representative."

According to our information, the underlying facts are that Rev. Jim Jones, a United States citizen, is living in Guyana, South America, where he is exercising physical custody over John Victor Stoen, a 5-year old child who is also a United States citizen. Rev. Jones has refused to deliver the child to his legal parents, each of whom testified before the court and joined the request for the order issued. Our office is representing the court pursuant to Section 4700(c) of the California Civil Code.

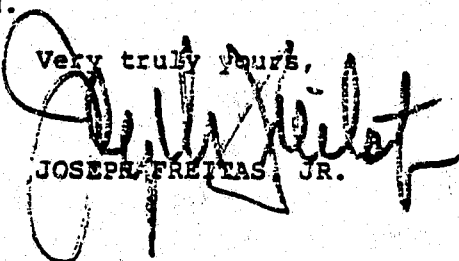
Hon. Don Edwards
Page two
November 25, 1977

We are respectfully asking you to use whatever influence you have to help us obtain Rev. Jones' compliance with the aforesaid order. If we cannot obtain Rev. Jones' compliance in this manner, it will be our duty pursuant to Section 5160 of the California Civil Code to apply to the court for a warrant of arrest against Rev. Jones.

We will be most grateful for whatever you can do to help. Time may be of the essence. Please let our office know if you need further information.

Thank you very much indeed.

Very truly yours,


JOSEPH FRETAS, JR.

Enc. Superior Court Order
dated November 18, 1977

JEFFREY A. HAAS
Attorney at Law
3609 Sacramento Street
San Francisco, CA 94118
(415) 922-6200

MARGARET RYAN
Attorney at Law
294 Page Street
San Francisco, CA 94102
(415) 626-0979

Attorneys for Petitioner

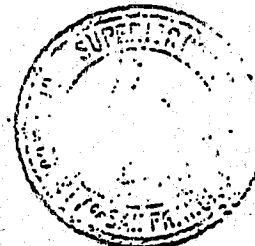
APPROVED FOR FILING BY: J. A. (JAMES)
CLERK OF THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

1977
JAMES M. GLENN, COUNTY CLERK OF SAN
FRANCISCO AND EX-OFFICIO CLERK OF THE
SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN
FRANCISCO

FILED
San Francisco County Superior Court

1977
CARL E. OLSEN, Clerk

D. FLANAGAN



SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

In re the marriage of	)	No. 719-147
Petitioner: GRACE LUCY STOEN	)	<u>ORDER RE CHILD CUSTODY</u>
and	)	
Respondent: TIMOTHY O. STOEN	)	

The matter of the order to show cause re the custody of the minor child JOHN VICTOR STOEN, born January 25, 1972 came on regularly for hearing on November 18, 1977 in Department 13 of the above entitled court. Petitioner GRACE LUCY STOEN was present personally and through her attorneys of record, Jeffrey Haas and Margaret Ryan. Respondent TIMOTHY O. STOEN appeared in pro per. There was no appearance by Claimant JIM JONES.

GOOD CAUSE APPEARING, the court made the following finding and orders:

1. Based upon the declarations on file it is found that

1. Claimant Reverend Jim Jones had actual notice of the pendency of
2 the proceedings, of his joinder, of this court's order directing
3 him to appear and of the instant hearing.

4 2. It is also found that contrary to the order of this
5 court that Reverend Jim Jones failed to appear before this court
6 on November 18, 1977 at 9:00 AM.

7 3. Based on testimony offered at the hearing of November 18,
8 1977 and a written stipulation filed therein, the court finds
9 and orders that it is in the best interest of the minor child,
10 JOHN VICTOR STOEN that his physical custody, care and control be
11 awarded to Petitioner GRACE LUCY STOEN, his natural mother. Reasonable
12 visitation will be reserved to Respondent TIMOTHY O.
13 STOEN. Petitioner and Respondent will share joint legal custody.
14 This court hereby fully incorporates by reference the stipulation
15 between the parties signed on November 18, 1977 and the order
16 arising therefrom.

17 4. It is ordered that Reverend Jim Jones will immediately
18 deliver the minor, JOHN VICTOR STOEN, to the Petitioner, GRACE
19 LUCY STOEN, or to her authorized representative.

20 5. It is ordered that pursuant to Section 4604 of the
21 California Civil Code, the District Attorney of the City and
22 County of San Francisco shall take all actions necessary to locate
23 Reverend Jim Jones and to secure Reverend Jim Jones' compliance
24 with this order.

25 6. It is further ordered that Petitioner is granted leave
26 to institute contempt proceedings against the Reverend Jim Jones.

27 7. Based on testimony offered at the hearing on November 18
28 1977 by both Petitioner and Respondent and notarized documents

1 provided to and filed with the court, the court finds and orders
2 that all previous statements signed by either Petitioner or
3 Respondent or both authorizing one JOYCE TOUCHETTE, JIM JONES, o
4 any other person to act as guardian of said minor child is hereby
5 declared null and void.

6 ORDERED this 18th day of November, 1977 and signed the 18th
7 day of November, 1977.

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10 JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
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